

10-MINUTE BIBLE LESSON *Friday* Mark 15:1-15, 25-39

Before watching the video: What do you already know about the events of Jesus' final week? This may include

remembrances of church services or Sunday School classes, or what you've seen portrayed on TV or in movies. Have you ever compared what you've been told or what you've seen with what the Gospels say? Keep what you've previously learned in mind for comparing as you move through this study.

Now read the passages twice. Take each one at a time, noticing every sentence and phrase. You may even want to start and stop the video to spend more time with each. What stands out to you?

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. – *Mark 15:1-15*

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel,

come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" – *Mark* 15:25-39

After watching the video: Think about the crowd that would have shown up to call for Jesus' death. Why would or would it not make sense for this group to be the same as the one cheering Jesus on Sunday?

Think about the significance of the temple curtain tearing and the Roman centurion's confession. Why do you think each of these are important?

Spend time with the list of ways people may think about what the crucifixion itself means. Which are most familiar to you; which ones have you never heard before? Which ones would you like to think or learn more about, and what steps could you take to do that?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with "amen."